

House Resolution 2118

By: Representative Stanley-Turner of the 53rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Mattie Call alert system for missing adults who suffer from Alzheimer's
2 disease, Autism, dementia, and other cognitive and mental impairments; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Levi's Call, Georgia's implementation of the "Amber Alert" program, was
5 established in January, 2002, as a voluntary partnership between law enforcement, emergency
6 management, and broadcasters to activate an urgent bulletin in child abduction cases; and

7 WHEREAS, recognizing the need for a similar program to address the tragedy and
8 heartbreak involved in the disappearance of mentally disabled adults and spurred by the
9 disappearance of Mrs. Mattie Moore, a 67 year-old woman who suffered from Alzheimer's
10 disease, in June, 2004, the City of Atlanta enacted an ordinance to create the Mattie Call
11 program for Atlanta; and

12 WHEREAS, by increasing the public's awareness of the unique challenges faced by this
13 special population and providing a quick and effective means of disseminating information
14 to the general public in the event of a disappearance, this program is helping to avert future
15 tragedies like that suffered by Mrs. Moore, who was last sighted in a neighborhood just three
16 miles from her home but whose residents were not aware of her condition; and

17 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is taking steps to incorporate a Mattie Call system in
18 communities across the state, creating a state-wide network that coordinates and facilitates
19 the efforts of law enforcement, media, civic groups, local businesses, and caregivers when
20 a loved one goes missing; and

21 WHEREAS, over five million people in the United States have Alzheimer's disease, and that
22 number is expected to triple by 2050 as the nation's population ages; and

1 WHEREAS, well over 50 percent of these people will wander and become lost, an incident
2 which always represents a critical emergency; and

3 WHEREAS, the Mattie Call program has the potential to serve as a model for a national alert
4 system for missing adults who suffer from Alzheimer's disease, Autism, dementia, and other
5 cognitive and mental impairments which would greatly increase the safety of these
6 individuals and provide greater peace of mind to their families and caregivers.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
8 this body hereby recognizes the Mattie Call program as an exemplary alert system which has
9 the potential to serve as a model for a national program.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
11 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the appropriate
12 representative of the Mattie Call program.